

### TRILLION DOLLAR DEFICITS NOT SUSTAINABLE

(Mr. NEUGEBAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I originally came down here to talk about the fact that when my two grandsons, Nathan and Noah, need to know whether they need their tonsils out, we're going to let the doctor make that decision, not the President of the United States or the Speaker of the House. But then the gentleman from Massachusetts got up and was quoting a comment that Chairman Bernanke made the other day about the stimulus package.

What he didn't talk about was the rest of the comment that Mr. Bernanke made when we said, The fact that we're borrowing 50 cents of every dollar that we spend, do you think that that would change your predictions down the road if we keep spending at this level?

This is to quote the Chairman: "Down the road, it might. As I talked about in my testimony, I do think it's very important that we look at a medium-term fiscal sustainability, that we have a plan for getting back to reasonably low deficits and a sustainable debt-to-GDP ratio. Otherwise, we might see interest rates rise, which would be a negative for the economy."

I said, Do you think we can keep spending and having these trillion dollar deficits and not put our country—is that sustainable? Chairman Bernanke said, "No, sir. It's not."

### AMERICANS DESERVE BETTER

(Mr. TIBERI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, we have before us this week, maybe, H.R. 3200, the health care reform bill. Those of us on this side of the aisle are for health care reform. We believe there are many who need insurance, many who need reduced costs for health insurance. Mr. Speaker, this isn't it. In fact, the President is fond of saying, if you have it and you like it, you can keep it. Not true.

On pages 16 and 17—and I would encourage the President to read pages 16 and 17, in fact, the entire bill—and he will see that we take a hatchet to private insurance, to employer health care, and, in fact, the Congressional Budget Office Director, a Democrat, said that the President not only doesn't bend the curve to reduce health costs, we increase it. And we create a \$200 billion deficit. Americans deserve better, Mr. Speaker. They deserve a better bill than this one.

### HEALTH CARE

(Mr. HARPER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HARPER. The health care reform proposal expected to come before the House contains provisions that include a tax increase of more than \$500 billion on American small businesses and working families, as well as a tax on jobs of up to 8 percent of employer's payrolls. Additionally, individuals would be required to buy coverage or pay a 2.5 percent fine on their income.

This government-run plan proposed by the Democrats will force more than 100 million individuals to lose their current insurance. Knocking this many Americans off their current coverage is a clear violation of the President's pledge to allow individuals to keep their current health plan if they like it. We need preventive medicine, not defensive medicine. I want health care decisions to be between you and your doctor, not some Washington government bureaucrat.

If the President and the Democrats are serious about health care reform, then they will work with the Republicans toward a bipartisan plan. The American people do not need health care reform legislation that can only get 218 votes in the House. Let's come up with a plan that will get 435 votes.

### CHANGE WE CAN USE

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I just got this e-mail from JoAnne Lewis in Coffee County, Georgia. She's with the Economic Development Authority. She says that Wayne Farms is now closing down, another 165 jobs lost. This brings Coffee County, Georgia's, total job loss to 2,979, or an unemployment rate of 16½ percent. Mr. President, where's the stimulus package? Where are the jobs?

Now, on top of this comes Speaker PELOSI. She's planning to ram through a \$1.2 trillion government takeover of the health care system. This will cause a \$534 billion tax increase and a \$208 billion tax increase on small business and farmers. Therefore, more layoffs, and more unemployed. Mr. Speaker, this is not the change the folks in Coffee County, Georgia, can use. They need jobs.

### TRUE BIPARTISANSHIP

(Mr. COLE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, since January, we've had a lot of talk about bipartisanship, and we've even had some of it. We had a partisan Democratic stimulus bill that created bipartisan debt and unemployment, but no bipartisan jobs. We had a partisan Democratic cap-and-trade bill that will create bipartisan higher energy prices, but no more bipartisan energy. And now we've got a partisan Democratic health care bill that will cost Democrats, Republicans and Independents alike their

jobs and quality health care. Hopefully, Mr. Speaker, the Democratic majority will eventually create a bipartisan opposition that will stop their job-killing health care bill in its tracks.

□ 1530

### THE DEMOCRAT PLAN DOESN'T REFORM HEALTH CARE

(Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, we need to reform health care in this country, but the Democratic plan doesn't do that. The Democratic health bill doesn't reduce costs or inefficiency. In fact, it increases taxes by over \$1 trillion, and it cuts provider payments substantially. Indeed, it forces tens of millions of people off of the private plans that they're satisfied with into a government-run plan. In fact, it creates 53 new Federal agencies or boards, tripling the size of the current government health care system. That is not a move in the right direction.

Is this plan good enough for Democratic leadership? Apparently not.

In the Ways and Means Committee, we offered amendments to mandate that all Members of Congress would have to be under the government-run plan. The response from Democratic leadership was that that wouldn't be fair to the families of Congressmen. Well, I've got something to say to this, Mr. Speaker. If it's not fair to the families of Congressmen, it's not fair to Americans who work hard and who actually pay their taxes to be forced into something like this.

What we need is a real plan with real reforms that the American people will accept and that will address their needs.

### MOST SMALL BUSINESSES SUBJECT TO DEMOCRATS' 8 PERCENT PAYROLL TAX

(Mr. CAMP asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, despite unemployment fast approaching 10 percent—over 15 percent in my home State of Michigan—a new analysis shows the Democrats' health care plan could force as many as 61 percent of small businesses which already provide health insurance to pay a new 8 percent payroll tax. The House Democrats' bill mandates employers must pay a minimum of 72.5 percent of the health insurance premiums for individuals and 65 percent for families. If an employer fails to do so, then it will be subject to a job- and wage-crushing 8 percent payroll tax.

According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, the new mandate will hit small firms and their employees especially hard. The majority of those